

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Every time the secondary distribution of the content between user devices is performed, a settlement log created upon the use of the content is issued from a content providing user device to a clearing center. The clearing center performs settlement processing for every distribution of the content. The content is formed in a secure container which stores a usage control policy (sales condition), point information, and profit distribution conditions. A content receiving user device creates a usage log based on the usage control policy information of the content, and sends it to the content providing user device. The content providing user device creates a receive log based on the usage log, and sends it to the clearing center. The clearing center then performs settlement processing based on the receive log.